

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 1.

Please amend the claims, as follows:

1 *sub C1* 20. (Amended) An inflatable thermal blanket for controlling the temperature
2 of a person, comprising:
3 a laminate base sheet having two ends and two edges defining a periphery of the
4 thermal blanket;
5 the base sheet including an under layer of a fibrous material, and an upper surface;
6 a plurality of apertures opening through the base sheet;
7 *Bs* an overlaying sheet attached to the upper surface of the base sheet at a plurality
8 of locations within the periphery of the thermal blanket;
9 the overlaying sheet sealed to the upper surface of the base sheet near the
10 periphery of the thermal blanket to form an inflatable structure comprising the overlaying
11 sheet and the base sheet; [and]
12 a non-inflatable portion of the inflatable structure near a head end; and
13 an opening near a foot end for admitting warmed air to the inflatable structure;
14 whereby,
15 the opening, the inflatable structure, and the apertures allow air to inflate the
16 thermal blanket and to be exhausted from the thermal blanket.

1 21. (Amended) The thermal blanket of Claim 20, wherein the opening is
2 [adjacent a foot end] into the center of the inflatable structure.

1 22. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 20, wherein the inflatable
2 structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base
3 sheet.

1 23. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 20, wherein the fibrous
2 material is paper.

1 24. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 20, wherein the plurality of
2 apertures have a density pattern in which the density of the apertures in the base sheet
3 increases in a direction toward the periphery of the thermal blanket.

1 25. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 20, wherein the upper surface
2 of the base sheet is a plastic material.

1 26. (Amended) The thermal blanket of Claim 25, wherein the opening is
2 [adjacent a foot end] into the center of the inflatable structure.

1 27. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 25, wherein the inflatable
2 structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base
3 sheet.

1 28. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 25, wherein the fibrous
2 material is paper.

1 29. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 25, wherein the base sheet
2 includes an upper layer of plastic material on the under layer, a surface of the upper layer
3 being the upper surface.

1 30. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 29, wherein the inflatable
2 structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base
3 sheet.

1 31. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 29, wherein the is a fibrous
2 material is paper.

1 32. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claim 31, wherein the plurality of
2 locations form the inflatable structure into a plurality of elongate, parallel, mutually
3 conducting tubes.

1 33. (Unchanged) The thermal blanket of Claims 20 or 32, wherein the thermal
2 blanket comprises a self-erecting structure.

1 34. (Unchanged) A combination for warming a person with the thermal
2 blanket of Claim 20, the combination comprising:
3 an air hose having two ends;
4 means for connecting a first end of the air hose to the opening of the thermal
5 blanket; and
6 a heater/blower connected to a second end of the air hose.

1 35. (Amended) An inflatable thermal blanket, comprising:
2 a flexible, multi-layer base sheet with a fibrous underlayer and an upper surface;
3 a flexible upper sheet attached to the upper surface of the base sheet;
4 the base sheet and upper sheet forming an inflatable structure;
5 the inflatable structure having two opposing ends;
6 a non-inflatable recess near a first end of the inflatable structure;
7 an inflation inlet near a second end of the inflatable structure for admitting an
8 inflating medium into the inflatable structure; and
9 a plurality of apertures opening through the base sheet for exhausting the inflating
10 medium from the inflatable structure.

1 36. (Amended) The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 35, [further
2 including] wherein the first end is a head end of the inflatable structure and [a] the non-
3 inflatable recess is defined by a seal near the head end that seals the upper sheet to the
4 base sheet at [and] the head end.

1 37. (Amended) The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 35 [36], further
2 including a plurality of seals between the base sheet and the upper sheet that form the
3 inflatable structure into a plurality of elongate, parallel, mutually communicating
4 chambers.

1 38. (Unchanged) The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 37, wherein the
2 inflatable structure is a self-erecting structure.

1 39. (Unchanged) The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 38, the base sheet
2 further including an upper layer of a flexible material attached to the fibrous under layer.